Train accidents

342. SHRI CHIMANBHAI MEHTA:
SHRI SARADA MOHANTY:
SHRIMATI MIRA DAS:
SHRI SOMPAL:
SHRI RAM NARESH YADAV:
SHRI RAMNARAYAN GOSWAMI:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the details of railway accidents during the past three months, indicating the number of persons killed and injured therein and the causes of these accidents; and what is the amount of compensation given in each case;

(b) what further action has been taken to avert the accidents?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI K. C. LENKA): (a) 116 train accidents have occurred from November 92 to January 93 over all Indian Railways which is inclusive of 15 collisions, 89 derailments, 9 level crossing gate accidents and 3 cases of fire in trains. In these accidents 61 persons lost their lives and 178 were injured. These accidents occured mainly on account of human failure, negligence of road users, mechanical and track equipment failures, etc.

No compensation has been paid so far.

(b) Some of the steps taken to reduce accidents are as under:—

(i) Induction of technical devices to aid the human.

(ii) Continuing emphasis on renewal and rehabilitation of overaged assets, particularly track, bridges and rolling stock.

(iii) Improvement in quality of out-turn from the workshops.

(iv) Intensive inspection of telecom gears, maintenance depots of coaches wagons and locomotives.

(v) Monitoring the performance of the staff of the critical safety categories as drivers, guards, station masters, etc.

(vi) Intensive training of staff in operational categories.

(vii) Surprise checks against carriage of inflammable/explosive materials in passenger trains.

(viii) Provision of whistle boards, speed breakers and road signs at the approaches of unmanned level crossings and improving visibility for road users and train drivers.

(ix) Educative campaigns through public medical including Doordarshan and Radio to educate road users on the precautions to be taken at level crossings.

(x) Joint checks in coordination with the State Govts. to enforce provisions of the Motor Vehicles Act.

रेलवे स्टेशनों पर बुक स्टालों का आबंटन

343. **श्री राम गोपाल यादव** : क्या रेल मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या रेलवे स्टेशनों पर बुक स्टालों के आबंटन के संबंध में कोई नीति है ;

(ख) क्या पूरे देश के सभी रेलवे स्टेशनों पर स्थित बुक स्टालों के खोले जाने की परमिट एक ही कंपनी को दिया जाना तर्कसंगत है ;

(ग) क्या ए० एच० व्हीलर एंड कंपनी के एकाधिकार के चलते इन बुक स्टालों पर स्तरीय पुस्तकों के अभाव की सूचना समय-समय पर रेल मंत्रालय को मिलती रहती है ; और

(घ) यदि हां, तो क्या रेल मंत्रालय बुक स्टालों का आबंटन जोन-वाइज करने का विचार रखता है ?

रेल मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री (श्री के०सी० लेंका) : (क) और (ख) मौजूदा बुक स्टालों के अलावा बड़े पैमाने पर नये आबंटन सहकारी समितियों, बेरोजगार-स्नातकों की एसोसियेशनो और वास्तविक कार्यकर्ताओं/रेलवे बुक स्टालों के वैंडरों की सहकारी सोसाइटियों और बेरोजगार स्नातक युवकों के लिए निर्धारित किये जाते हैं। इसके अलावा, ऐसे स्टेशनों पर जहां बड़े ठेकेदार बुक स्टाल चलाते हैं, वहां प्लेटफार्म पर भीड़-भाड़ आदि सहित विभिन्न संबंधित तत्वों को ध्यान में रखते हुए बुक स्टालों का आबंटन लाभ अर्जित न करने वाले/लोकोपकारी संगठनों को किया जा सकता है।

(ग) और (घ) सूचना इकट्ठी की जा रही है और सभा पटल पर रख दी जाएगी।

Length of Railway routes in Vidarbha region of Maharashtra

344. SHRI V. RAJESHWAR RAO:
DR. SHRIKANT RAMCHANDRA JICHKAR:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the length of railway routes, broad gauge, metre gauge and narrow gauge in the Vidarbha Region of Maharashtra;

(b) whether Government propose to convert the metre and narrow gauge lines in Vidarbha into broad gauge; and

(c) what is the kilometreage and names of new lines approved by the Planning Commission for Vidarbha?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI K. C. LENKA): (a) Length of railway routes, region wise, is not being maintained. However, in the State of Maharashtra as on 1.4.92 the route kms. are as under:—

BG	MG	NG	Total
3460	881	1100	5441

(b) Work of conversion of (i) Gondia-Chandafort (242 km) NG to BG in the Vidarbha Region of Maharashtra is in progress. (ii) Khandwa-Purna (NG to BG) is included in the first phase of the action plan of Project Uni-guage. Work will be taken up in the coming years as per availability of resources.

(iii) Nagbhir-Nagpur & Pachora-Jamner will be considered for inclusion in the next phase.

(iv) Other NG lines Yavtmal-Murtizapur-Achalpur & Pulgaon-Arvi are private lines and as such the question of their conversion would be considered only if the Railways decide to exercise the option to take over these lines, which can be considered only at the time of next renewal of agreement in 1996.

(c) New BG line between Narkhed-Amravati (138 km) has been approved by the Planning Commission.

'Own your Wagon' Scheme

345. SHRI KRISHNA KUMAR BIRLA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have finalised the proposal "OWN YOUR WAGON" scheme for providing ownership of a freight trains;

(b) if so, the details of the firms shown interest for the proposed scheme;

(c) whether Government would be benefited by the said scheme; and

(d) if so, to what extent?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI K. C. LENKA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The following firms have shown interest in the proposed scheme:

(i) M|s. Tata Tea Limited.

(ii) M|s. ESSAR Gujarat Limited.

(iii) Indian Oil Corporation on behalf of the oil sector.